

NATIONAL HEALTHY SCHOOLS DAY

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Healthy Schools Day, which is being celebrated around the country today.

National Healthy Schools Day recognizes the importance of having a clean and healthy indoor environment in our Nation's schools. And today I introduced a House resolution officially recognizing National Healthy Schools Day.

Some 54 million children spend their days in our Nation's schools, half of which have problems with indoor air quality. Children are more vulnerable than adults to environmental hazards in their schools because of their developing immune systems and small bodies.

Poor indoor environmental quality has been linked to asthma and other illnesses in children. With one out of every 13 children suffering from asthma—the number one cause of missed school days—it is very important that we address this issue. Healthy and high-performance schools are the answer to this problem. They reduce indoor environmental hazards and are energy efficient.

I was proud to work with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to develop New York State's High Performance Schools guidelines, and I am proud to recognize National Healthy Schools Day.

AMERICAN FAMILIES DEMAND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, families in South Carolina are fed up with reckless Washington spending. They are fed up with the massive borrowing that threatens their children's future, their own retirements, and Social Security. They are concerned about future tax increases on American families and small businesses destroying jobs.

If we are to restore fiscal sanity to Washington, then Congress needs to listen to the American people because they get it. They have had to make tough decisions to balance their budgets, and it is past time that Congress put the taxpayers' checkbook down and make some tough choices too.

House Republicans have and will continue to offer our set of bold and fiscally responsible proposals to encourage job creation, limit growth in government, and help American families rebuild their savings. We stand ready to work with anyone who believes, as the American people do, that we can-

not simply continue to throw money at the challenges we face.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th and the global war on terrorism.

WATER SAVES LIVES

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, what do six terrorist attacks, Gitmo, dead Americans, and Khalid Sheik Mohammed—also known as KSM—have in common? Waterboarding.

Last week, several top secret national security papers were released to the public. We learned from these documents that waterboarding is apparently saving American lives. After being waterboarded numerous times at Gitmo, KSM, the killer responsible for planning 9/11, started talking. He told the CIA about plans to hijack an airplane and crash it into a skyscraper in Los Angeles and kill Americans. He disclosed the 17-member terrorist cell charged with executing that plan. He also exposed plans of another terrorist cell in New York plotting to destroy the Brooklyn Bridge.

The enhanced interrogation encouraged KSM to disclose information by naming the ringleaders of four other terrorist attacks. Americans are alive because this individual was doused in water.

Terrorists are not victims. The only victims are thousands of people who have died at the hands of these outlaws. The CIA interrogators have saved American lives by baptizing these criminals in water.

And that's just the way it is.

REMEMBERING SARVELIO DEL VALLE

(Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay respects to a friend who passed away this weekend, Sarvelio del Valle. Sarvelio del Valle was the director of the sports department, sports broadcaster, and commentator for Radio Mambi, WAQI in Miami. He was also so much more.

A lifelong journalist, he possessed an unparalleled knowledge of sports and sports history. And he was also the personification of cordiality, grace, good humor, patriotism, decency, and friendship.

To his beloved wife, Yaya, and his entire family, my most sincere condolences. I will greatly miss Sarvelio del Valle. And like his many friends and the countless thousands who were his devoted listeners, I will never forget him.

May God bless the soul of my friend, Sarvelio del Valle.

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SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

BORDER WAR CONTINUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I bring you news from the second front, and that's the border war that the United States has on the border with Mexico down in the southern part of the United States.

I had the opportunity for the last couple of weekends to spend some time with our Texas border sheriffs and the Air National Guard. In fact, I got to fly with the Texas Air National Guard and their helicopters on a mission a couple of weeks ago, and I want to give my compliments and thanks to Lieutenant Colonel Drew Daugherty, Major Bill Taylor, and others yet to be named whose identities should remain confidential.

In any event, we had the opportunity to fly up and down the Rio Grande River at dusk and then at dark to see what has taken place on that border with Mexico. We saw a couple of incidents where individuals had crossed into the United States. They were later apprehended by the Border Patrol. We saw one incident where there was obviously a smuggling operation getting ready to take place on the Mexican side of the river, where we could see from the American side a drug cartel apparently, in my opinion, was loading up duffel bags so that they could move those into the United States. That information was given to the Border Patrol, and I suspect that the Border Patrol apprehended those individuals when they came across the United States. These low-altitude helicopters are very important in the fight against the drug cartels that come into the United States.

There are some issues, however. The Air National Guard, like the National Guard, does not have enough equipment. For this massive 1,800-mile border here in Texas, there are only four helicopters that the Air National Guard has. And when something else occurs in the State like a hurricane or like a fire, those helicopters are pulled off surveillance and they're taken somewhere else in the State.

So the first issue is that we as a Nation should support the National Guard and the Air National Guard in their work with the border sheriffs and with the Border Patrol, the ATF, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and anyone else in the Federal Government that's working to protect the dignities of our borders.

As I mentioned earlier, I had the opportunity also to be with our Texas